LCCP Services

Support Includes:

A **one-on-one support system** designed to pair up women who have been recently diagnosed with a "buddy" who has been through a similar experience. Buddies can provide phone support, information sharing and resources. Buddies are also available for caregivers and bereavement support.

Call LCCP for more information.

Professionally facilitated Survivors and Caregivers Support Groups for women living with cancer, cancer histories, and for women in a primary support role for anyone with cancer.

For the next start date call the LCCP office.

Massage and Spa visits for women living with cancer at Thousand Waves Spa, 1212 W. Belmont. LCCP and Thousand Waves will provide up to five free spa visits and an additional 5 free massages or energy treatments.

To schedule an appointment call LCCP.

A **Resource Library** that includes articles, books, video, and audio tapes on a wide range of topics, including alternative therapies, which may be borrowed.

Feel free to drop in during office hours

It's Time
We Take Care of Ourselves!

Prevention & Early Detection Programming Includes:

A **Free Women's Health Clinic** located on both the north and south sides of Chicago. The clinic offers pap tests, breast exams, STD screening, and safer-sex information in a lesbian-affirming environment.

Call to schedule an appointment.

A **Smoking Cessation Clinic**, led by volunteer professionals. This clinic combines acupuncture, hypnotherapy, and group support to help women who want to quit smoking.

Call for next scheduled session.

For more information
call LCCP
773-561-4662

We need your support
to help us continue to provide high quality services in the years ahead.

You can make a tax-deductible contribution to support our work. Checks should be made payable to LCCP and sent to:

LCCP
4753 N. Broadway, Suite 602,
Chicago, IL. 60640-4907

Volunteers Are Needed

Be a part of one of LCCP's exciting committees

Services—defining, administrating, and evaluating the support programs we offer.

Advocacy—advocate for the health and well-being of lesbians and non-lesbian women through education, outreach, political action, and research.

Development—grant writing, community, events, individual donors, and special events.

Public Relations and Marketing—writing, graphic arts, copy editing, managing promotional campaigns, and creating PSA's.

***Volunteers** are needed to assist with our delivery of quality direct services*

If you have had cancer, consider becoming a Buddy. A buddy provides women with a recent cancer diagnosis with support, information sharing, and resources.

Health Care Professionals are needed to help staff LCCP early detection and support services. If you are a traditional or alternative health care provider your specialty may be helpful.

Ready to volunteer?

Call LCCP

773-561-4662

LESBIAN

Why Is There A Need

COMMUNITY

For A Cancer Project

CANCER

Specifically For Lesbians?

PROJECT

Consider These Facts

In 1960 one in twenty American women got breast cancer. Today one in eight American women will get breast cancer in their lifetime. By the year 2000, cancer will be the number one killer of Americans, surpassing heart disease. There is a cancer epidemic. The longer you live, the greater your chances of having some kind of cancer. Half of all cancers are diagnosed in people over sixty-five. The cancer incidence begins to rise at age thirty-five in women.

Rates of incidence vary among different populations of women due to heterosexism, racism, and environmental racism. For example, over the past twenty-five years, the death rate from cancer has increased 50 percent among African-American women and 10 percent in the white population. No one knows for sure why the rate is greater for African-American women, but many point to issues including: environmental pollution, lack of quality health care, and racism to explain the difference.

Environmental risks for cancer have not been adequately researched. Dangerous toxic chemicals are produced by industry and released into the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the soil that nourishes our food. We need to change our industrial policies and standards so that we may have a healthy world and live healthy lives.

1. Lesbians often encounter ignorance and heterosexism in the medical and health-related arenas, making routine health exams stressful and uncomfortable. Recent studies note that lesbians are more likely to discover cancer at a later and more dangerous stage of the disease because we are less likely to go to a gynecologist or physician for regular physical exams or other treatment.

2. Medical professionals need to be educated and sensitized to the needs of lesbian patients and our self-identified families. In addition, lesbians and all women need to learn how to be their own advocates during the treatment process.

3. When lesbians are diagnosed with cancer, we frequently do not have a support system to help us explore options or deal with fears. Lesbians with cancer need support space that is free of judgment about our life, our family, and our illness.

4. Partners of lesbians with cancer and their self-identified families have their own particular support needs during treatment and recovery. If a lesbian with cancer dies, special support needs arise which could include emotional, legal, and financial matters.

5. Lesbians are less likely to become pregnant than non-lesbians. This may increase our lifetime exposure to estrogen and may increase our risk of breast, ovarian, and uterine cancer.

Statement of Purpose

The Lesbian Community Cancer Project provides support, information, education, advocacy, and direct services to lesbian and non-lesbian women living with cancer, cancer histories, and to their self-identified families. The project does not discriminate and is open to all women who support our goals.

As part of a nationwide informal network of grassroots groups and organizations now approaching cancer with a feminist perspective, we are committed to challenging the various forms of discrimination that exist in both mainstream and alternative cancer establishments -- heterosexism, sexism, racism, ableism, ageism, and classism. This discrimination affects the funding and interpretation of research, the attitudes of health care providers, and women's access to medical treatment.

LCCP has a strong commitment to advocating for change in the environment, the medical community, and legislatures. We work to ensure early detection, treatment and accessibility of alternative treatments to every woman. LCCP offers support groups, one-to one support, and direct services.

LCCP is open to all women who approach health care from a woman-centered perspective. Our commitment to ourselves as lesbians and women affected by cancer is unique in Chicago and the Midwest.

Please print. Detach and mail to: LCCP, P.O. Box 46352, Chicago, Illinois 60546

❑ I want to volunteer, please send information.

❑ I want to donate:

- ❑ $10
- ❑ $25*
- ❑ $50
- ❑ $100
- ❑ Other $_____

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone: Day_____ Eve._____

*Covers the cost of your newsletter mailings.